

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Masayoshi KOBUNE et al.

Title: METHOD OF ENHANCED HEMATOPOIESIS-SUPPORTING
ABILITY OF IMMORTALIZED HUMAN BONE MARROW
STROMA CELL BY TRANSFERRING INDIAN HEDGEHOG GENE

Int'l. Appl. No.: PCT/JP2004/003695

Int'l. Filing Date: 3/18/2004

Examiner: Unassigned

Art Unit: Unassigned

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR §1.56

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO/SB/08 is a listing of documents known to Applicants in order to comply with Applicants' duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicants do not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* art reference against the claims of the present application.

TIMING OF THE DISCLOSURE

The listed documents are being submitted in compliance with 37 CFR §1.97(b), within three (3) months of the filing date of the application.

RELEVANCE OF EACH DOCUMENT

The documents being cited in the attached PTO/SB/08 were cited as being relevant during the prosecution of the corresponding international application. A copy of the International Search Report is attached setting forth the portion of the documents considered relevant by the examiner. A copy of the cited references listed in the Search Report are not being submitted herewith.

Applicants respectfully request that each listed document be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO/SB/08 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 CFR §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

Date 27 April 2006

By Stephen A. Bent

FOLEY & LARDNER LLP
Customer Number: 22428
Telephone: (202) 672-5404
Facsimile: (202) 672-5399

Stephen A. Bent
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 29,768

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Substitute for form 1449B/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT Date Submitted: April 27, 2006 <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>			Complete if Known	
			Application Number	Unassigned
			Filing Date	April 27, 2006
			First Named Inventor	Masayoshi KOBUNE
			Group Art Unit	Unassigned
			Examiner Name	Unassigned
			Attorney Docket Number	081356-0260

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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)			
	A1		WO 99/20298 A1		4/29/1999		

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS				
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.) date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.		T ⁶
	A2	M. BARON et al., "Induction of embryonic hematopoietic and endothelial stem/progenitor cells by hedgehog-mediated signals", Differentiation, 2001, Vol. 68, Nos. 4 to 5, pp. 175-185.		
	A3	MA DYER et al., "Indian hedgehog activates hematopoiesis and vasculogenesis and can respecify prosepective neuroectodermal cell fate in the mouse embryo", Development (2001), Vol. 128, No. 10, pp. 1717-1730.		
	A4	S. PATHI et al., "Comparative biological responses to human Sonic, Indian, and Desert hedgehog", Mech Dev. (2001), Vol. 106, Nos. 1 to 2, pp. 107-117.		
	A5	Y. KAWANO et al., "Ex vivo expansion of human umbilical cord hematopoietic progenitor cells using a coculture system with human telomerase catalytic subunit (hTERT)-transfected human stromal cells", Blood, 1/15/2003, Epub 9/5/2002, Vol. 101, No. 2, pop. 532-540.		
	A6	Yojiro NIITSU et al., "Fushika Hito Kotsuzui Stroma Saibo o Mochiita CD34 Yosei Saibo kara no Sekigakkyu Zofuku ni Kansuru Kento", Tokuhatsusei Zoketsu Shogai ni Kansuru Chosa Kenkyuhan Heisei 14 Nendo Kokatsu Buntan Kenkyu Hokokusho, 3/31/2003, pp. 69-71.		
	A7	J.L. SIMONSEN et al., "Telomerase expression extends the proliferative life-span and maintains the osteogenic potential of human bone marrow stromal cells", Nat. Biotechnol. , 2002, Vol. 20, No. 6, pp. 592-596.		

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document.

⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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